

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanigawa et al (US Patent 5,195,033). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim changes are indicated that Applicant believes should place the application in condition for allowance.

In our claimed arrangement a search position is set based on the deviation of indefinite distance corresponding point for each reference image area on a reference image. However, Tanigawa et al correct the search area by bias Δbs . Although error Δbs is set for each window, it is set as a correction value for correcting the calculated parallax, and thus, the cited reference is not structured to correct the search area based on the error Δbs . Therefore, the structure as the feature of the present invention is not disclosed in the cited reference.

Regarding the correction of search area, in the structure, which corrects evenly as shown in the cited reference, there is a possibility that mismatching occurs because the area in which matching cannot be performed exists or the matching area become oversize, however, such a problem can be solved by changing the search area. In addition, the reliability of the calculation of parallax is improved by the correction by the error Δbs , however, it can not solve the above-mentioned problem.

Regarding claim 22, in order to calculate the deviation of indefinite distance corresponding point, the structure is defined such that test chart on which a vertical line having an interval of baseline of stereo camera is written is photographed. The portion pointed out by

the Examiner in the cited art only that a test chart having only stripe is photographed (see column 3, lines 15—16) and does not disclose the interval of the stripes.

Claims 1, 12 and 23 have been amended to specify that the amount of deviation of the infinite distance is individually set for each location in said first image. No new matter is presented. Basis is found at page 25, line 16 to page 26, line 7, of this application.

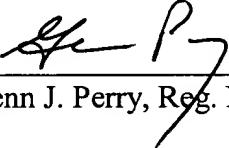
Favorable action at the Examiner's earliest convenience is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-4300.

Respectfully submitted,

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